

Appl. No. 10/018,346
Amendment dated December 4, 2003
Reply to Office Action of August 5, 2003

The following Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A production management system, comprising:
 - a production line including a plurality of product processing apparatuses, said plurality of product processing apparatuses having at least one of a combination weigher and bagger;
 - a network that connects said plurality of product processing apparatuses;
 - a plurality of image-taking means for producing image information by taking images of operating conditions of said product processing apparatuses, said image-taking means being provided at each of said product processing apparatuses, each of said plurality of product processing apparatuses apparatus having storage means for storing the image information; and
 - image-information-demanding-means for demanding and receiving the image information from said storage means via said network.
2. (Original) A production management system according to claim 1, wherein said network is an Ethernet or wireless LAN.
3. (Currently Amended) A production management system according to claim 1, further comprising
 - control means for controlling said product processing apparatuses based on the image information distributed via by said network.
4. (Previously Presented) A production management system according to claim 1, further comprising
 - warning means for issuing a warning, said warning means having reference image information and issuing a warning based on comparison between the image information and said reference image information.

5. (Canceled).

6. (Currently Amended) A system for checking operating conditions of product processing apparatus, comprising:

a combination weigher and bagger having storage means;

image-taking means for producing image information by taking images of operating conditions of said combination weigher and bagger, said storage means storing image information obtained by said image-taking means; and

~~a production line including a combination weigher and bagger, said combination weigher and bagger having storage means for storing image information obtained by said image taking means; and~~

a network that connects said combination weigher and bagger and said image-taking means.

7. (Currently Amended) A system for checking operating conditions of product processing apparatus apparatuses according to claim 6, wherein:

said storage means stores image information from said image-taking means, said image information relating to operating conditions of said combination weigher and bagger taken at a plurality of locations.

8. (Currently Amended) A system for checking operating conditions of product processing apparatus apparatuses according to claim 6, wherein:

said storage means stores image information from said image-taking means, said image information relating to operating conditions of said combination weigher and bagger being taken at different times.

9. (Currently Amended) A system for checking operating conditions of product processing apparatus apparatuses according to claim 6, further comprising

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abnormality detection means for detecting abnormalities in the operating conditions of said combination weigher and bagger.

10. (Currently Amended) A system for checking operating conditions of product processing apparatus apparatuses according to claim 9, further comprising

display means for displaying said image information,

wherein:

when detection of abnormality information is received from said abnormality detection means, said display means displays image information of the location where an abnormality has occurred, said image information being taken from before and until after occurrence of said abnormality and stored in said storage means.

11. (Currently Amended) A system for checking operating conditions of product processing apparatuses in a production line ~~having a plurality of product processing apparatuses~~, said system comprising:

a production line including a plurality of product processing apparatuses, said plurality of product processing apparatuses having at least one ~~of a~~ combination weigher and bagger;

a network that connects said plurality of product processing apparatuses, ~~at least one of said plurality of product processing apparatuses~~;

image-taking means for taking images of operating conditions of said the product processing apparatuses;

first storage means provided in at least one of said plurality of product processing apparatuses for storing image information obtained by said image-taking means; and

an image distribution device connected to said first storage means and capable of distributing image information stored by said first storage means.

12. (Original) A system for checking operating conditions of product processing apparatuses according to claim 11, further comprising

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second storage means for storing said image information distributed by said image distribution device.

13. (Currently Amended) A system for checking operating conditions of product processing apparatuses according to claim 12, wherein:

said second storage means stores at least one of image information of operating conditions of the plurality of product processing apparatuses, image information of operating conditions being taken from a plurality of locations at each product processing apparatus, and image information of operating conditions being taken at different times.

14. (Previously Presented) A system for checking operating conditions of product processing apparatuses according to claim 11, further comprising

abnormality detection means for detecting abnormalities in the operating conditions of the product processing apparatuses.

15. (Previously Presented) A system for checking operating conditions of product processing apparatuses according to claim 14, further comprising

display means for displaying said image information, and

second storage means for storing said image information distributed by said image distribution device,

wherein:

when detection of abnormality information is received from said abnormality detection means, said display means displays image information of the location where an abnormality has occurred, said image information being taken from before and until after the occurrence of the abnormality and being stored in said second storage means.